

IN THE CLAIMS:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the application are reproduced below. Please amend the claims as follows:

✓ Claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

10. (Twice Amended) A no-tie fishing apparatus for a fishing device comprising:  
a fishing line having a first end; and  
a sliding loop formed on the first end of the fishing line with a diameter that may be  
increased and decreased multiple times for releasably engaging the fishing line with the  
fishing device and disengaging the fishing line from the fishing device.

11. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the fishing line comprises a tippet.

12. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the fishing line comprises a leader.

13. (Amended) The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, further comprising the fishing  
line having a second end and a fixed loop disposed on the second end.

14. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the fishing line further comprises:  
a first section having a first end and a second end;  
a second section having a first end and a second end;  
the sliding loop formed on the first end of the first section; and  
the second end of the first section releasably engaged with the first end of the second  
section.

15. The fishing apparatus of Claim 14, wherein the first section comprises a tippet,  
and wherein the second section comprises a leader.

16. (Amended) The fishing apparatus of Claim 14, further comprising:  
a first fixed loop formed on the second end of the first section;  
a second fixed loop formed on the first end of the second section; and  
the first fixed loop and the second fixed loop releasably engage with  
each other.

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17. (Twice Amended) A method for fabricating a no-tie fishing apparatus for  
releasably engaging and disengaging more than one fishing device comprising:  
providing a fishing line, the fishing line having a first end; and  
forming a sliding loop on the first end of the fishing line for releasably engaging and  
disengaging the fishing line with a first fishing device without untying the sliding loop.

18. (Amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein the step of forming a sliding  
loop comprises:  
forming a first loop with a first end of the fishing line;  
forming a second loop with the first end of the fishing line, the second loop formed  
adjacent the first loop;  
wrapping the first end of the fishing line through the first and second loops and  
around a central portion of the fishing line; and  
drawing the first end of the fishing line away from the first and second loops to form  
the sliding loop which may be releasably engaged with and disengaged from the first fishing  
device.

19. (Amended) The method of Claim 17, further comprising forming a first fixed  
loop on a second end of the fishing line.

20. (Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein the fishing line further comprises:  
a first section having a first end and a second end;  
a second section having a first end and a second end;  
wherein the step of forming a sliding loop comprises forming the sliding loop on the  
first end of the first section; and  
releasably engaging the first end of the second section with the second end of the first  
section.

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21. (Amended) The method of Claim 20, further comprising:  
forming a second fixed loop on the second end of the first section;  
forming a third fixed loop on the first end of the second section; and  
releasably engaging the first end of the second section with the second end of the first  
section by releasably engaging the third fixed loop with the second fixed loop.

22. (Amended) A sliding loop formed on one end of a fishing line, the sliding loop  
knot formed by a method comprising:  
forming a first loop with a first end of the fishing line;  
forming a second loop with the first end of the fishing line, the second loop formed  
adjacent the first loop;  
wrapping the first end of the fishing line through the first and second loops and  
around a central portion of the fishing line; and  
drawing the first end of the fishing line away from the first and second loops and the  
central portion of the fishing line to form the sliding loop knot.



Claims 23-39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 40 and 41 have been added.

40. (Amended) A fishing apparatus for releasable engagement with and disengagement from a first fishing device and engagement with and disengagement from a second fishing device comprising:

a fishing line having a first end with a sliding loop formed on the first end of the fishing line;

the sliding loop providing means for releasably engaging and disengaging the fishing line with the first fishing device and the second fishing device;

the fishing line having at least a first section and a second section;

the first section and the second section having respective first ends and second ends;

the first end of the first section corresponding with the first end of the fishing line with the sliding loop formed thereon;

a first fixed loop formed on the second end of the first section and a second fixed loop formed on the first end of the second section; and

the first fixed loop and the second fixed loop releasably engaged with each other.

41. (Amended) A fishing apparatus for releasable engagement with a fishing device comprising:

a fishing line having a first end with a sliding loop formed on the first end of the fishing line;

the sliding loop having a diameter which may be decreased and increased to respectively engage and disengage the fishing line and a fishing device;

the sliding loop formed by a sliding loop knot defined in part by a first loop and a second loop;

the second loop formed adjacent to the first loop;

the first end of the fishing line wrapped through both the first loop and the second loop and around a central portion of the fishing line;

the first end of the fishing line drawn away from the first loop and the second loop to form the sliding loop knot; and